

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of State/ Union Territories	Percentage of electors provided with Identity Cards till June 1996
States		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35.67
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	60.11
3.	Assam	Nil
4.	Bihar	14.63
5.	Goa	60.28
6.	Gujarat	69.50
7.	Haryana	81.50
8.	Himachal Pradesh	59.98
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Scheme not yet Introduced
10.	Karnataka	54.41
11.	Kerala	Work not yet Started
12.	Madhya Pradesh	35.61
13.	Maharashtra	77.44
14.	Manipur	74.14
15.	Meghalaya	74.26
16.	Mizoram	Work not yet Started
17.	Nagaland	Nil
18.	Orissa	64.89
19.	Punjab	67.43
20.	Rajasthan	63.31
21.	Sikkim	71.59
22.	Tamil Nadu	Nil
23.	Tripura	26.06
24.	Uttar Pradesh	32.04
25.	West Bengal	64.21
Union Territories		
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	80.97
27.	Chandigarh	65.30
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	32.29
29.	Daman and Diu	58.50
30.	National Capital Territory of Delhi	62.54
31.	Lakshadweep	82.85
32.	Pondicherry	85.48

Export of Agricultural Items

4275. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the possibilities of exporting agricultural products from Uttar Pradesh and also their sales in the international market have been ascertained;

(b) the details of the other States in which such possibilities have been ascertained during the last three years and the achievements made so far in this regard, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to explore such possibilities for the remaining States;

(d) if so the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No specific study for determining possibilities of export of agricultural products from Uttar Pradesh and their sales in the international market has been conducted so far. However, some of the agricultural products identified for exports from Uttar Pradesh are rice, mangoes, litchies, spices and fresh vegetables.

(b) No study for ascertaining the possibilities of exports of agricultural products from other States have been undertaken during the last three years.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. Government of Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh have sought financial assistance from Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) for conducting surveys to ascertain export potential of agricultural products. A proposal to conduct a survey of export of agricultural products from the North Eastern Region is under consideration of APEDA.

[English]

Infrastructure Development Finance Company

4276. SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

DR. C. SILVERA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken so far to establish an Infrastructure Development Finance Company as announced during presentation of Budget 1996-97;

(b) the details of the composition of such Finance Company;

(c) the details of guidelines laid down for investment by this Finance Company;

(d) whether the Government propose to merge the State owned Power Finance Corporations with the above Finance Company;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the objective likely to be achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). As a follow up of the Budget announcement for 1996-97, a Working Group under the Chairmanship of the then Secretary (Banking) was constituted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to work out the modalities for setting up of the Infrastructure Development Finance Company (IDFC). Further

consequential steps for setting up of the IDFC are being taken. Details of guidelines for investment etc. will be formulated by the IDFC after it has been set up and operationalised.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) and (f). Do not arise.

Revival of Scooter India Ltd.

4277. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :
SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Scooter India Ltd. a Public Sector unit has fallen sick;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have a proposal to revive sick unit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount likely to be spent on the rehabilitation of that unit?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Scooters India Limited was referred to BIFR in 1992. The main reasons for its sickness are :

- (i) Lack of upgradation of technology in terms of design, process and manufacturing which could meet the changing needs of customers.
- (ii) Very high interest bearing liabilities on account of the past operating losses.
- (iii) Excess manpower incommensurate with production levels.
- (iv) Consumer preference for other makes of Scooters.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Government has decided to revive Scooters India Limited in the present set up as per the revival scheme sanctioned by BIFR with necessary cash infusion amounting to Rs. 22.45 crores and other reliefs and concessions.

[Translation]

Import of Maize

4278. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been signed with USA for import of maize;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions set for it; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of maize growers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

High Court Bench at Goa

4279. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request for the setting up of an independent High Court in the State of Goa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c). The Government of Goa have proposed that the State of Goa should have an independent High Court. The matter is under consideration.

[Translation]

Patent Issue

4280. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has since submitted the report on Patent Issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of suggestions received in this regard;

(d) whether some suggestions or memoranda from the Members of Parliament and other social organisations have been received in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (e). The Government has not asked the Planning Commission to submit any report on the Patent Issue. It has, however, received suggestions/memoranda relating to amendment to the Patents Act, 1970 in the context of the TRIPs Agreement which is a part of the WTO Agreement.

Government is holding consultations in order to work out appropriate measures in this regard.

[English]

Interest on Bank Deposits

4281. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the revision of interest rates on bank deposits has adversely affected the national saving scheme;